



CITY OF MONROE MEDIA RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TJERNE PLACE SE EXTENSION – GOLDEN SHOVEL GROUND BREAKING

Project Description: This project involves extending Tjerne Place east by constructing a new road between Chain Lake Road and Woods Creek Road. The extension will be located behind (north of) Ben Franklin and Safeway, and connect to Woods Creek Road at Oaks Street.

This project will extend Tjerne Place SE to Woods Creek Road. Beginning at the intersection with Chain Lake Road, approximately 1,000 feet of roadway will be constructed, which includes two drive lanes, a center turn lane, and wide concrete sidewalks on both sides of the road. The intersection at Chain Lake Road and Tjerne Place SE will be modified by removing the driveway apron on the east leg of the intersection and creating a typical street intersection that can better accommodate truck turning movements. On the east end of the project, where the road will tie into Woods Creek Road, a new signal will be installed to safely control traffic coming together from Tjerne Place SE, Woods Creek Road, and Oaks Street. Other features include a new driveway access to the Safeway shopping center, new retaining walls along the Emerald City Athletic Club property, stormwater infrastructure, and sewer and water utility extensions.

Project Cost and Funding Sources: The project cost is estimated at \$4.7 million, which includes necessary right-of-way purchase, design costs, construction, and project management fees. The City received a grant from the Transportation Improvement Board to fund sixty-five percent of the project. Additionally, Snohomish County PUD is a funding partner on this project, as they recognize that this project will benefit their future facility plans.

| Fund Source | Amount |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| Transportation Improvement Board | \$3,055,000 |
| Snohomish County PUD | \$1,000,000 |
| City Capital Program Funds | \$701,000 |

**THE ADVENTURE
STARTS HERE!**

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Project Objectives: Studies estimate that as much as 10,000 vehicle trips per day will be removed from US2, as drivers will seek out alternative roads to avoid this congested highway. Tjerne Place SE will provide this alternate route between the core shopping centers of Fred Meyer, Safeway and Haggens.

Background: The idea of an east/west connector road has been around for some time. As early as 2003 there was City Council discussion on naming the connector after former mayor Gordon Tjerne. Mr. Tjerne was a well-respected member of the Monroe community. He began his venture into local politics after retiring from his profession as a pharmacist and served as City Councilmember from 1979 to 1982. In 1982, he was elected Mayor of the City of Monroe and proudly served for fourteen additional years. Mr. Tjerne was excited about the implementation and construction of Lake Tye in the Frylands area. He never knew a stranger and always made time to chat with local citizens. As the unofficial 'goodwill ambassador' of Monroe, the City Council voted in 2004 to name the east to west connecting road between North Kelsey Street and Chain Lake Road "Tjerne Place," in his honor. Mr. Tjerne passed away in 2002 and his legacy lives on through the extension of Tjerne Place to Woods Creek Road.



Original Concept Map of the Tjerne Place SE Extension Project

Prepared by David Evans and Associates Inc.

For more information about this project, please visit the City of Monroe's website for this project at <http://www.monroewa.gov/TjernePlace>. If you have questions, please contact Scott Peterson, Project Manager: (360) 863-4606, speterson@monroewa.gov.